

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for permitting the controlled installation of a software product, including an associated run-time file needed to execute the software product, onto a local machine, the method comprising:

generating an installer identifier at the local machine based on the software product, in response to a request to install the software product on the local machine, wherein the generated installer identifier represents a characteristic of a software product medium on which the software product is stored;

comparing the generated installer identifier to a stored installer identifier on the software product;

storing a license file and a hardware identifier identifying the local machine on the local machine in response to a match between the generated installer identifier and the stored installer identifier; and

enabling a complete installation of the software product on the local machine, including installing at least one run-time file ~~associated with~~ needed to execute the software product, in response to the match between the generated installer identifier and the stored installer identifier;

whereby the stored license file is associated only with the software product installed on the local machine and the hardware identifier is associated only with the local machine, and the stored license file can be subsequently accessed to enable the execution of the completely installed software product including the installed at least one

run-time file on the local machine but cannot be used with a separate software product or to execute the software product on a machine other than the local machine.

2. (Original) A computer readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 1.

3-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the generated installer identifier represents a characteristic of a file list corresponding to the software product media.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 5, wherein the generated installer identifier is a hash value representing the characteristic of the file list corresponding to the software product media.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of receiving a software product key.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 7, wherein installing on the local machine the at least one run-time file ~~associated with~~ needed to execute the software product occurs in response to a determination that the received software product key is a correct software product key.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of executing a set-up program.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the license file is stored in a hardware signature file on the local machine.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for permitting the controlled installation and execution on a local machine of a software product including an associated run-time file needed to execute the software product, the method comprising:

generating an installer identifier on the local machine in response to a request to install the software product on the local machine, wherein the generated installer identifier represents a characteristic of a software product medium on which the software product is stored;

comparing the generated installer identifier to a stored installer identifier on the software product;

storing a license file and a hardware identifier identifying the local machine on the local machine in response to a match between the generated installer identifier and the stored installer identifier;

enabling a complete installation of the software product on the local machine, including installing at least one run-time file ~~associated with~~ needed to execute the software product in response to a match between the generated installer identifier and stored installer identifier whereby the stored license file is associated only with the

software product installed on the local machine and the hardware identifier is associated only with the local machine; and

enabling the execution of the software product on the local machine, in response to a determination that a proper license file ~~has~~ and hardware identifier have been stored on the local machine.

12. (Original) A computer readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 11.

13-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, wherein the generated installer identifier represents a characteristic of a file list corresponding to the software product media.

16. (Original) The method of Claim 15, wherein the generated installer identifier is a hash value representing the characteristic of the file list corresponding to the software product media.

17. (Original) The method of Claim 11, further comprising the step of receiving a software product key.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 17 wherein installing on the local machine the at least one run-time file ~~associated with~~ needed to execute the software product occurs in response to a determination that the received software product key is a correct software product key.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, wherein the determination that the proper license file has been stored comprises determining that the stored license file matches a second license in a hardware signature file on the local machine.

20. (Cancelled)